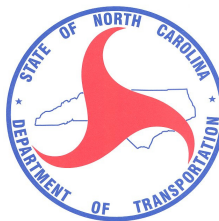


ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2008



Bear Creek Bridge Mitigation Site
Onslow County
TIP No. B-3217
CAMA permit No. 24-04



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Appendix A – Site Photos

SUMMARY

The Bear Creek Bridge Mitigation Site (B-3217) is located in Onslow County. This is an annual report for temporary impacts associated with the bridge replacement of Bridge No. 21 over Bear Creek on SR 1503. The site was completed in May 2006.

It was previously reported that the temporary impacts totaled 0.85 acres. This was due to the fact that NCDOT previously monitored mechanized clearing areas that were considered permanent impacts. After further review please note that the temporary impacts encompass approximately 0.71 acres: 0.53 acres due to fill for the temporary detour causeway and 0.18 acres due to mechanized clearing for the temporary detour. The area that was impacted is being monitored to ensure that it re-attains wetland jurisdictional status. Hydrologic monitoring is not required for this site; however vegetation monitoring is required for three years.

After the third year of monitoring, the Bear Creek Bridge site shows by visual observation that the temporarily impacted area is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status.

NCDOT recommends discontinuing vegetation monitoring of this site.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

The Bear Creek Bridge Site (B-3217) is located in Onslow County. This is an annual report for temporary impacts associated with bridge replacement of Bridge No. 21 over Bear Creek on SR 1503 (Figure 1).

1.2 Purpose

In order for a temporarily impacted site to be considered successful, the site must re-attain wetland jurisdictional status. This report details the vegetation monitoring in 2008 at the Bear Creek Bridge site. Hydrologic monitoring was not required for this site.

1.3 Project History

May 2006	Project Completed
September 2006	Vegetation Monitoring (1 year)
July 2007	Vegetation Monitoring (2 year)
July 2008	Vegetation Monitoring (3 year)

2.0 VEGETATION: BEAR CREEK BRIDGE SITE (YEAR 3 MONITORING)

2.1 Success Criteria

Due to the possibility that compaction, mechanized clearing, and/or other site alterations might prevent the temporary wetland impact area from re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status, the permittee shall provide an annual update on the wetland areas temporarily impacted by this project. This annual update will consist of photographs and a brief report on the progress of the temporarily impacted areas. After three years of monitoring, the permittee shall schedule a field meeting with DCM, DWQ, and WRC to determine if the temporarily impacted areas have re-attained jurisdictional wetland status. If at the end of three years the area has not re-attained jurisdictional wetland status, NC DCM and the above listed agencies shall determine whether a compensatory wetland mitigation plan will be required.

2.2 Description of Species

Sawgrass and Black Needle Rush were planted for the temporary fill impacts.

2.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring

Species noted in temporary impact and mechanized clearing areas are as follows: cattails, black needle rush, sawgrass, *Juncus* sp., alder, sedge, green ash, fennel, ragweed, tulip poplar, goldenrod, queen ann's lace, trumpet creeper, black willow, smartweed, wax myrtle, woolgrass, red maple, pine, *Sagittaria* sp., sweetgum, alder, *Quercus* sp., and various grasses. Photos 5, 6, and 7 were not included with this report. These photos had been previously taken at the permanent mechanized clearing areas and were not within the temporary impact area.

2.4 Conclusions

There were approximately 0.71 acres of temporary impacts on site. By visual observation, the Bear Creek Bridge site shows that the planted species are surviving and natural re-vegetation is occurring. The impacted areas are re-attaining jurisdictional wetland status.

3.0 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

NCDOT proposes to discontinue vegetation monitoring at the Bear Creek Bridge Site.

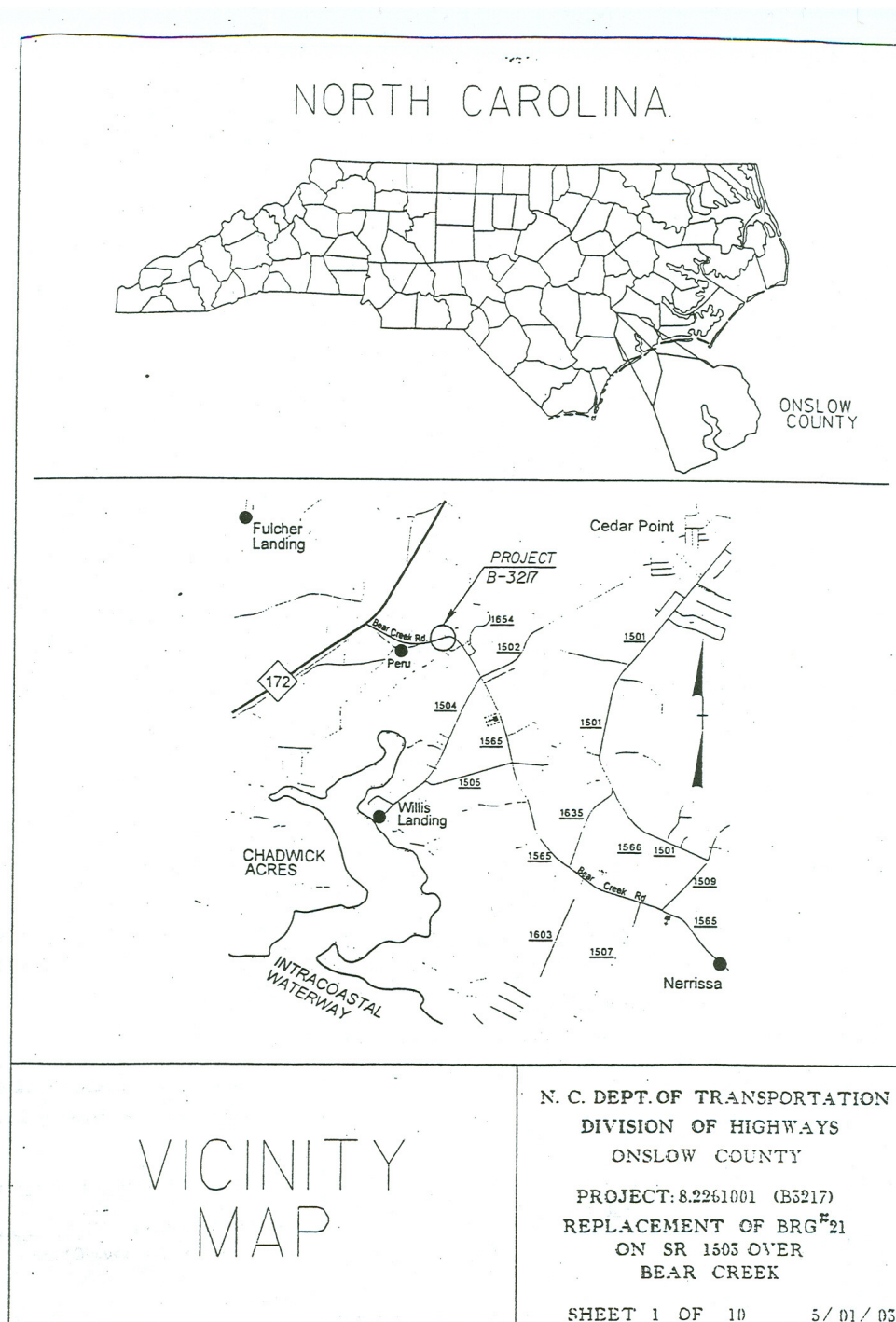


Figure 1. Site Location Map

APPENDIX A

SITE PHOTOS

Bear Creek Bridge



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4

July 2008